

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAMBUR 01201 291516Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-10 /081 W  
-----088564 300302Z /61

R 291358Z SEP 77  
FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4394  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
USMISSION BERLIN

UNCLAS HAMBURG 1201

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, GW  
SUBJECT: TENSIONS IN HAMBURG SPD-FDP COALITION

1. ON SEPT. 27 THE HAMBURG SENATE (8 - SPD, 3 - FDP) DECIDED TO HAVE FORTHCOMING BUERGERSCHAFT ELECTION ON JUNE 4, 1978 WITH ALL THREE FDP SENATORS VOTING AGAINST. THEY PREFERRED AN EARLIER DATE BECAUSE THE ELECTION IN NEIGHBORING LOWER SAXONY, WHERE THE FDP IS IN COALITION WITH THE CDU, HAS ALREADY BEEN FIXED FOR JUNE 4 AND THE FDP FEARS THAT RUNNING ONE WAY IN HAMBURG AND ANOTHER WAY IN LOWER SAXONY AT THE SAME TIME MIGHT COST SOME VOTES. THE ELECTION DATE WAS THE MOST HEAVILY DISPUTED POINT OF THE SEPT. 28 BUERGERSCHAFT MEETING SINCE THE FDP FLOOR LEADER, MRS. MAJA STADLER-EULER, EARLIER HAD SAID TO THE PRESS THAT THE FDP FRACTION WILL DEFINITELY VOTE WITH THE CDU OPPOSITION WHICH FAVORS APRIL 23 AS AN ELECTION DATE. THE CDU FRACTION SUPPORTED BY THE FDP APPROVED UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 HAMBUR 01201 291516Z

A RESOLUTION ASKING THE SENATE TO REVISE ITS DECISION AND ARRANGE FOR THE ELECTIONS ON APRIL 23, BUT THE SENATE HAS TAKEN A FIRM POSITION AND THERE ARE NO PROSPECTS THAT THE SENATE WILL FOLLOW THE REQUEST.

2. THE HAMBURG CDU TEAM WILL AGAIN BE HEADED BY THE 62-YEAR OLD ERIC BLUMENFELD, FOLLOWED BY JUERGEN ECHTERNACH, HAMBURG CDU CHAIRMAN, EDUARD PROSCH AND

HARTMUT PERSCHAU, BOTH DEPUTY CHAIRMEN AND (MRS.)  
BIRGIT BREUEL. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HAMBURG POST-  
WAR HISTORY, THE CDU HAS NAMED A CANDIDATE FOR THE  
BUERGERSCHAFT PRESIDENT'S CHAIR IN CASE THE CDU SHOULD  
BECOME THE STRONGEST FRACTION: THE PRESENT DEPUTY  
BUERGERSCHAFT PRESIDENT ALFRED DE CHAPEAUROUGE.  
KISELYAK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TENSIONS IN HAMBURG SPD-FDP COALITION  
**TAGS:** PINT, GE  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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